Shanghai Municipal Police.

CENTRAL POLICE Station.

October 26 1921

REPORT ON Provincial Autonomy Co-operative Society

Made by D. I. Sullivan *Forwarded by* Director of Criminal Intelligence.

Sir,

The prime mover in the foundation of the above Provincial Autonomy Co-operative Society which it is proposed to form at 420a North Chengtu Road is Hsiung Hsi Ling(熊希龄), who is at present in Peking and who has held several important posts in the Peking Government. The two persons who are taking an active part in the formation of the society locally are Zee Veh Soo(徐佛苏), a native of Hunan who came to Shanghai at the beginning of 1919 as a member of the suite of Chu Chi Chien(朱启钤), the Northern Peace Delegate, and who claims to hold the honorary rank of adviser to the Chinese Government, and Tong Fah Yeu (湯發予), native of Kiangse, an ex-M.P. who claims to be an adviser to the Board of Finance. Zee resides at 420a North Chengtu Road and Tong at 183 South Chengtu Road. The expenses incurred in promoting the society have so far been paid by Hsiung Hsi Ling(熊希龄) who contributed $1,000.00 and Zee and Tong. About 60 persons most of whom are in Peking, have been enrolled as members of the society.

The promoters claim that their sole object is to help to bring about peace between the Northern and Southern parties and to encourage the establishment of Provincial Self-government. They state that their reason for forming the society in Shanghai is that if it was formed in Peking it would excite suspicion and distrust on the part of the Southern Party, but if the society is a success the head-quarters will be removed to Peking. The regulations, of

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which a copy is attached, are purely tentative and it has not yet been decided whether the newspaper which it is proposed to establish will be published in Shanghai or elsewhere. Any meetings the society may hold will be confined to members only and the general public will not be admitted.

There is not much doubt that the society is purely political and is working on behalf of members of the Northern Party or perhaps the Peking Government.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
J. Sullivan
D. I.

D. C. I.

D. C. I.

Please send a caution to those responsible for this society that while they remain in the Settlement there must be no plotting or intriguing & all meetings should be reported to H.Qrs at least 2 days before they are held.

27/11/21.

Carried out Oct. 31st 1921
J. Sullivan
D. I.

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Sinza Station.

23rd October 1921.

REPORT ON A letter received on the 23rd October by Inspector in Charge, Sinza Station.

Made by D.S.I. Kiloh. *Forwarded by* [illegible]

Sir,

I beg to report that attached letter(and translation) was received at Sinza Station on the 23rd October addressed to the Inspector in Charge. This letter intimates that a Sub-association for the purpose of investigating into the question of provincial self-government,has been opened at Chinese dwelling house No.420a N. Chengtu Road, (Tsung Chi Lee Alleyway 安吉里), the letter states that they intend to hold meetings at this address once or twice weekly, this letter is signed by Bang Ying Zung (彭瀛丞), Sectary of the "Sub-association for the purpose of investigating into the question of provincial self-government". No 420a N.Chengtu Road is occupied by Sz Tsai Tsung (施再聚), a native of Chekiang, he is the master of gold shop, Foh Tai Hung (福泰亨) n the Ming Yu Lee Alleyway (民樂里), Honan Road, and Zee Veh Soo (徐步佛), a native of Hunan (湖南) and political adviser to the President of China. Fifteen men had a consultation at this address between 4 and 4-30 p.m. on the 23rd October re publishing a periodical in favour of provincial self-government, The Eastern Times (时事新报), had two representatives, The Chun Hwa Sin Pao (中華新报), one, The Kok Wing Toong Sin Zoo (国文通信社), one, Zing Wei Ching (刘陈偉成), stock broker, Lieu Kwaung Li (刘光烈.), a former Southern Peace Delegate and, Lieu Nyoh Sz (刘玉书), an adviser to the President of China, Thaung Fei Yu (汤費予), member of the Southern Parliament and Chairman of the Constitutional Drafting Committee, the others who attended this consultation

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are at present unknown. This periodical when published will contain all the latest news from Europe and America . Attached are the rules and regulations of this Association and a circular, (these two papers have not been translated because the C.I.D. Interpreter attached to this Station informs me that they are too difficult for him to translate.)

I am,

Sir,

Yours obediently,

J. C. Kilah

D.S.I.

D.C.I..

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Translation of a letter addressed to Inspector in charge, Sinza Station, dated 23rd October.

Sir,

We beg to inform you that we are establishing a Sub-Association for the purpose of investigating into the question of provincial self-government. We have rented Chinese dwellinghouse No. 420a N.Chengtu Road (Tsung Chi Lee Alleyway 宗 志 里). We intend to hold meetings at this address once or twice weekly.

Signed:- Bang Ying Zung, Secretary of the "Sub-Association for the purpose of investigating into the question of provincial self-government".

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Note :- Before the membership campaign is opened, do not publish any declaration.

Draft of Regulations for the Provincial Autonomy Co-operative Society.

1.- The objects of our proposal to establish a Provincial Autonomy Co-operative Society are :-

(a) To secure a definite policy to reform the country by the co-operation of all provinces.
(b) To furnish autonomy for the people.
(c) To co-operate in the improvement of affairs relating to autonomy in the various provinces and districts.
(d) To hasten the holding of a Provincial Conference for the unity of the country.

2.- The affairs of this society are :-

(a) To discuss the Provincial and National Constitutions.
(b) To discuss proposals for other policies.
(c) To publish printed matter periodically or otherwise.
(d) To prepare for simple lectures and to devise ways and means to furnish discussion towards world questions.
(d) To publish declarations, etc. recording the aim and work of this society.

3.- The Society will be first organized by promoters and supporters. Those who agree with the objects of the Society may become members on being introduced by at least three members of the Society.

4.- The members of the Society will nominate a Directorate which will decide on all questions concerning the Society. There will be a Chairman for the Directorate to manage the Society's affairs. The Directorate should only take up office after the Society has been formally inaugurated for 3 months. Five persons amongst the members will be appointed as preparatory officers before the Directorate is nominated.

5.- The ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ Society will elect a Special Committee to carry out the work mentioned in a,b,c,d, of Art. 2. This committee, the number of whose members is not fixed, is to be appointed by the Directorate. Rules governing the committee are stated below separately.

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6.- The work of the officers of the Society is voluntary, but those who work daily for the Society or who bear expenses on the Society's business will be paid from the Society's fund.

7.- In order to carry into effect the work mentioned in (d) of Art. 1, the Society will establish a committee composed of members elected from representatives of all provinces. The election will be directed by the Directorate.

8.- The entrance fee for members is $4.00 and when emergency requires, members are obliged to subscribe for special purposes.

9.- The central headquarters of the Society will be in Shanghai.

10.- The above regulations will be enforced immediately they are passed by the inauguration meeting and to be discussed, revised, or re-drafted again by the Provincial Conference.

Draft of rules governing the Directorate.

1.- The Directorate will hold a meeting once every three months.

2.- Special meetings are to be held at the request of three or more members or of the Chairman of the Directorate.

3.- Ordinary meetings of the Directorate will only be held when a majority of the directors are present; special meetings, one-third of the members necessary.

4.- Resolutionsat meetings of the Directorate will be considered passed when supportedby over half of those present.

5.- Chairman and members of the Directorate when unable to attend meetings owing to reasonable causes may ask other members to act as their representatives.

6.- The sending of all documents bearing the name of the Society is at the disposal of the Directorate or the Chairman of the Directorate.

7.- All affairs of the Society relating to secretarial, treasury, etc. will be managed by the Directorate. The Chairman to stamp all documents containing decisions passed at meetings.

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8.- The above rules will be enforced on the approval of the Directorate.

Draft of rules governing the

Special Committee

1.- The Special Committee is to appoint two Chinese and two Foreign secretaries anda certain number of editors and inspectors.

2.- The Special Committee is to discuss and to decide on the following matters :-

(a) To decide on the proposed discussion of problems and to suggest resolutions.
(b) To investigate or to discuss the suggested resolutions.
(c) To edit occasional publications.
(d) To translate into foreign languages declarations or suggestions which the Society thinks necessary.
(e) To report on investigations, etc.

3.- Meetings of the Special Committee to be called by the secretary. The Chairman at such meetings to be elected temporarily.

4.- Members of the Society may suggest resolutions to the Committee.

5.- Resolutions suggested by the committee itself must be carefully discussed after investigations are made.

6.- The passing of resolutions by members of the Society should be as follows :-

(a) To send out circulars enclosing a copy of the resolution and stating the date which it is to be discussed to all members of the Society.
(b) Members unable to attend the meeting must send to the committee their opinions regarding the resolution.
(c) Such opinions as stated in (b) shall be conveyed to the members present at the meeting or shall be read at the meeting.
(d) After discussion the committee shall communicate to all members a report of the discussion regarding the resolutions which have been discussed. The members, then, shall vote and the resolutions to be declared passed or defeated.

7.- Individuals or organizations concerned in the resolution are allowed to give their opinion and to discuss same. In this case the committee should not consider the right of membership.

8.- Matters relating to editing periodical publications are at the disposal of the editorial committee. Expenses incurred in this work to be subscribed separately.

9.- Investigations, etc. in foreign countries are to be the work of those who will be sent out for same.

10.-The above rules will be enforced after having been passed by the committee and approved by the Directorate.

Proposed by
(List of names on a separate paper).

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Draft of a letter to the various provinces and special districts for mebership campaign.

The idea of Provincial Autonomy as the most suitable governing system for our country was long ago advocated by able politicians who believe that by this system only can the unity of the country be secured. Our country first took up the task of promoting a new government during the period when the Tsing Dynasty was most civilised up to the establishment of the Republic. The fight between the new and the old factions, the two greatest antagonists, in putting forth their own but entirely different ideas for a government does not at all give an opportunity to organize the country from the foundation. Three ideas of a government are being suggested, viz:- (1) Militaristic Republic, (2) a central government with absolute power and (3) Parliamentary Government. The harm arising out of these governments are, absolute militarism, the division of North and South, and the quarrel between the two opposite parliaments. The situation now is such that nothing can maintain it. The people have begun to understand the situation. They now know thoroughly well that the cause is the bad system of government. Following this, the idea of a Provincial Autonomy becomes more agreeable daily and is gradually being declared and supported by the people to be the best project for the country. We are endeavouring to bring this system into effect, however, as this concerns the affairs of the entire country and moreover the work can not be performed by one or two provinces or special districts or by a few persons, we are now opening a membership campaign

throughout the country with a view to organizing a co-operative society in Shanghai. Opinions from the people will be gathered and efforts will be made to bring forth practical improvements. These are our objects. The duty of an individual should never be neglected. We know you very well, sir, for your ability, education and strong determination. Therefore we state herein our reasons for organizing the society and attach herewith a draft of the regulations, etc. for your information and request you on your agreeing with our proposal to gather supporters in your district and vicinity in order to carry out our object.

The above letter is supposed to be signed by promoters and supporters in Peking and Shanghai.